

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer keyboard system comprising:

a base having a number pad and a biometric reader for reading a biometric characteristic of a user; and

a removable section having an alphanumeric key cluster and a wireless transmitter; the removable section being removably coupleable in a snap-fit fashion to a-an electro-mechanical connector located on the base wherein the removable section transmits a signal to a host computer via the base, wherein the removable section includes a scrolling device and is configurable in an abutment relationship with the base for a user selectable separation process corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user;

wherein the biometric reader is configured to send a signal so as to physically release the removable section from the electro-mechanical connector responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user, wherein upon physical release of the removable section, the host computer and the physically released removable section remain operably connected to each other via the base which includes a wireless receiver to receive the signal from the wireless transmitter of the removable section; and

wherein the selectable separation process is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels ~~either located on the base or the removable section~~ in substantially perpendicular to the electro-mechanical connector for slidably guiding the removable section away from the electro-mechanical connector.

2. (Original) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the removable section includes a cursor control device.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The computer keyboard system in accordance with ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, further including a wireless mouse configured to wirelessly communicate with the wireless receiver of the base.

6. (Previously Presented) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the biometric reader comprises a fingerprint reader configured to send a signal so as to release the removable section from the base responsive to a fingerprint identification of the user.

7. (Original) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 1, in which the base includes a receiving portion adapted to substantially enclose the removable section therein.

8. (Original) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the removable section removable coupling comprises a media interface.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer keyboard system comprising:

a first keyboard housing including a processor therein for operating a number pad with a key cluster or a biometric reader for reading a biometric characteristic of a user; and

a second keyboard housing having an alphanumeric section; wherein said second keyboard housing is nestable within a receiving portion of the first keyboard housing and removably coupleable to a an electro-mechanical connector located on the first keyboard housing such that when said first keyboard housing and second keyboard housing are coupled together, said first keyboard housing includes a processor operable to electrically charge to a mobile power source in the second keyboard housing, wherein the second keyboard housing includes a scrolling device and is configurable in an abutment relationship with the first keyboard housing for a user selectable separation process corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user

to trigger a stand-alone self-powered mode to trigger an input to a processor link for user-based input with the second key-board housing,

wherein the biometric reader is configured to send an electrical signal to facilitate ~~mechanical~~ physical release of the second keyboard housing from the electro-mechanical connector responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user, wherein upon physical release of the second keyboard housing, the first keyboard housing and the physically released second keyboard housing remain operably connected to each other via a wireless receiver located on the first keyboard housing to receive a signal from a wireless transmitter located on the second keyboard housing; and

wherein the selectable separation process is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels located on the first keyboard housing in substantially perpendicular to the electro-mechanical connector for slidably guiding the second keyboard housing away from the electro-mechanical connector.

10. (Original) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 9, wherein the second keyboard housing includes a cursor control device.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 9, wherein the biometric device comprises a fingerprint reader system configured to send a signal to release the second keyboard housing from the first keyboard based on fingerprint identification of the user.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 9, wherein the second keyboard housing removable coupling comprises media interface configured to cooperate with the processor.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer keyboard configured for wireless communication with a computer, comprising:

a keyboard housing;

a keyboard processor configured to cooperate with a transmitter for wireless communication to a computer;

a fingerprint reader mounted to the keyboard housing for reading a fingerprint identification of a user; and

a removable alphanumeric section removably coupleable in a snap-fit fashion to a electro-mechanical connector located on the keyboard housing, wherein the removable alphanumeric section having a processor and a transmitter for wireless communication to the computer; the alphanumeric section including a group of alphanumeric keys being operatively connected to the processor, wherein the removable section includes a scrolling device and is configurable in an abutment relationship with the keyboard housing for a user selectable separation process corresponding to the fingerprint identification of the user,

wherein the fingerprint reader is configured to send a signal so as to physically release the removable alphanumeric section from the connector responsive to the fingerprint identification of the user, wherein upon physical release of the removable alphanumeric section, the computer and the physically released removable alphanumeric section remain operably connected to each other via the keyboard housing which includes a wireless receiver to receive the signal from the wireless transmitter of the removable alphanumeric section, and

wherein the selectable separation process is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels ~~either located in the keyboard housing or the removable alphanumeric section~~ in substantially perpendicular to the electro-mechanical connector for slidably guiding the second keyboard housing away from the electro-mechanical connector.

17. (Original) The computer keyboard in accordance with claim 16, wherein the removable section includes a cursor control device.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The computer keyboard in accordance with claim 16, in which the keyboard housing includes a receiving portion adapted to substantially enclose the removable alphanumeric section therein.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer keyboard configured for communication with a computer, comprising:

a keyboard housing;

a keyboard processor within the keyboard housing for communicating with the computer; and

a removable keyboard portion removably coupleable to a connector located on the keyboard housing, wherein the removable keyboard portion comprising:

an alphanumeric section including a group of alphanumeric keys being
operatively connectable to the keyboard processor;

a transmitter for wireless communication;

a biometric reader device configured for communicating with the
keyboard processor based on a biometric characteristic of a user; and

a scrolling device,

wherein the removable keyboard portion is configurable in an abutment relationship with the keyboard housing for a user selectable separation process corresponding to the biometric characteristic of the user to trigger a stand-alone self-powered mode to trigger an input to a processor link for user-based input with the removable keyboard portion, and

wherein the biometric reader is configured to send an electrical signal so as to facilitate ~~mechanical~~-physical release of the removable keyboard portion from the electro-mechanical connector responsive to the biometric characteristic of the user, wherein upon physical release of the removable keyboard portion, the computer and the physically released removable keyboard portion remain operably connected to each other via the keyboard housing which includes a wireless receiver to receive a signal from the wireless transmitter of the removable keyboard portion; and

wherein the mechanical release is facilitated by transverse grooves or channels located in the keyboard housing in substantially perpendicular to the electro-mechanical connector for slidably guiding the removable keyboard portion away from the electro-mechanical connector.

23. (Original) The computer keyboard in accordance with claim 22, wherein the removable keyboard portion includes a cursor control device.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The computer keyboard in accordance with claim 22, further including a wireless mouse configured for wireless communication with the computer via the keyboard processor.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer keyboard system in accordance with claim 9, wherein the second keyboard housing is removably coupleable to the connector in a snap-fit fashion.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The computer keyboard in accordance with claim 22, wherein the removable keyboard portion is removably coupleable to the connector in a snap-fit fashion.

29. (Canceled)